

June 25, 2015

Preparation and Assessment of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions Side Event Report

Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan (OECC)
Prepared by Jiro Ogahara

This is a report of a side event held at the 42th Session of the Subsidiary Bodies of the UNFCCC (SB42) from June 1st to 11th 2015, in Bonn, Germany.

- Title : Preparation and Assessment of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions
- Date : 18:30 - 20:00, Friday 5 June, 2015
- Organizer(s) : climatepolicy.net e.V.; National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (RIVM)
- Venue : Bonn III, World Conference Center Bonn (WCCB), Bonn, Germany
- Presenter(s) : Niklas Hohne, Markus Hagemann, Hanna Fekete (NewClimate Institute); Marcia Rocha (Climate Analytics); Michel den Elzen, Heleen van Soest, Mark Roelfsema (PBL Netherlands)
- Abstract: Research institutions provided their latest insights on progress in preparation of INDCs, process and methodologies for assessing INDCs, options to increase ambition pre and post 2020 as well as the impact of international cooperative initiatives on emissions of countries.

■ Summary

1. Niklas Hohne, NCI: "Assessing the achieved and missed co-benefits of INDCs"

- INDCs are important in terms of reducing emissions, but co-benefits also needs to be quantified, as it seems there is a missing opportunity.
- There is a lot of missed benefits at the current situation of INDCs.
- This side event brought authors of the UNEP Emissions Gap Report to explain what they have researched and analyzed.

2. Markus Hagemann, NCI: "Preparing INDCs: Progress and lessons learned"

- Presentation based on surveys that NCI has sent to countries. It is already known that a large number of countries have started, but few already submitted.
- By June 2015, 58% of global emission are expected to be covered.
- Broad range of INDC component. There were 44 respondents.

- 71% expressed lack of certainty on what to include in INDCs, and the same percentage expressed limited expertise for assessing mitigation options.
- As a conclusion, 75% of countries reported that the INDC process has helped to accelerate existing processes.

3. Marcia Rocha, Climate Analytics: “Evaluations of levels of ambition Climate Action Tracker”

- The speaker introduced the Climate Action Tracker, which assesses INDCs, pledges and current policies.
- The Tracker provided national, fast-response assessments from a high-level perspective for 30 countries covering around 80% of global emissions.
- The purpose was to evaluate current climate-change policies, emission reduction targets and contributions and effort-sharing in an international context, by applying a harmonized approach in order to provide a general overview of the current status of contributions and policies in the respective countries.
- INDCs are assessed in the context of 1) adequacy to 2°C at the country level (effort-sharing range), 2) adequacy to 2°C of all INDCs in aggregate at global level, 3) current policy projections, 4) longer-term targets, policies and pledges if applicable, 5) comprehensive assessment of the macro-economic indicators and decarbonization trends, 6) emissions reductions potentials/co-benefits analysis
- So far 7 INDCs assessed: none of the 7 are in line with a country’s fair share effort to holding warming to below 2 degrees unless other countries make much deeper reductions and greater effort.
- An implementation gap between current policies and the INDC remains indicating that countries will need to put in place additional legislation in order for INDC reduction targets to be met
- A significant gap still exists in 2025 and 2030, as December 2014.

4. Michel den Elzen, PBL: “INDC assessment”

- By 1st of June 2015 ten countries had submitted their INDCs, which represent about 30% of global GHG emissions in 2010. The INDCs submitted to date could reduce emissions by about 2.5 GtCO₂e by 2030, compared to current policies, leading to global GHG emissions of about 58.5 GtCO₂e in 2030.
- This reduction is about 15% of the 19 GtCO₂e emission gap between the global emission levels of 2030 that would be consistent with achieving 2°C and those that would result from current policies.

- US: 26-28% below 2005 by 2025: More ambitious than current policies, INDC is at upper end of 2°C above per capita convergence range (but uncertain)
- China: Announcement 20% non-fossil share in primary energy consumption and peak around 2030: More ambitious than current policies, but announcement is above 2°C and per capita convergence range.
- Reduction highly depends on current policies scenario, which explains the difference between USA and EU. So far, reductions by INDCs are ~2.5 Gt CO₂ with largest contributions from the USA and EU.

5. Heleen van Soest, PBL: “Options for enhanced policies in major emitting countries”

- Introduced the PBL report of “Enhanced policy scenarios for major emitting countries”
- The objective is to provide an overview of the projected GHG emissions of 13 major emitting countries up to 2030, taking into account the emissions trajectories based on current, planned and selected enhanced policies. The thirteen major emitting countries are: Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, European Union, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, the Russian Federation, South Korea, Turkey and the United States (65% of global 2010 emissions).
- According to the report, at the global level, enhanced policies are not enough to meet 2°C target.
- Some conclusions state that Brazil, China, EU, India, Japan, Russian Federation likely to achieve pledge through existing policies; US and Mexico with planned policies; further reductions possible through policy enhancement measures in line with national priorities; Still high uncertainty around future estimates (e.g. Japan: nuclear power and Indonesia: land use emissions).

6. Hanna Fekete, NCI: “Potential mitigation impact of good practice policies”

- The speaker researched how much could global GHG emissions be reduced if all countries implemented the best policies that are already applied by some countries, by identifying good practice policy areas, by defining indicators for the quantification of policies, and by determining impact on emissions per country and globally.
- She showed results in some specific policy areas such as fuel efficiency of light duty vehicles (LDVs). Data shows relatively homogeneous efficiency of LDVs across countries today, with some deviation in the future. Good practices improve efficiency especially after 2020.
- She concluded that good practice policies in nine analyzed areas move emission trajectories significantly towards 2°C; that policies in areas not analyzed (35% of

emissions) can lead to additional reductions; fast implementation and broad geographical coverage are essential; sectoral indicators are valuable for analyzing direct impacts of policies.

7. Mark Roelfsema, PBL: “International cooperative initiatives”

- The speaker talked about an assessment of international initiatives (ICIs) outside the UNFCCC, asking what is the impact of international initiatives on global GHG emission reductions. He questioned how much is the impact additional to the impact of pledges?
- He found that among reductions from ICI between 4.5 - 5 GtCO₂e by 2030, the initiatives with highest impact were 1) company initiatives, 2) HFC proposal to Montreal Protocol, 3) Global Methane Initiative
- Data showed that emission level after implementation from ICIs is within pledge range from UNEP gap report (2014)
- Other initiatives analyzed are city initiatives, and Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) & Global Methane Initiative (GMI).

(Not enough time for Q&A session)

To access the Side Event Reports, please refer to the following link:

English:

http://www.mmechanisms.org/e/info/event/details_oecc_SB42report.html